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AMMANFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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**Medical Officer of  
Health's  
REPORT  
For 1966**

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Jones and Mainwaring (Printers) Ltd., Ammanford.

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AMMANFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

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Medical Officer of Health :

Dr. G. M. HERBERT, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector :

Mr W. DAVIES, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Clerical Assistant :

Miss DIANE CHANDLER

# AMMANFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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AMMANFORD,

August 1967.

## To the Chairman and Members of the Council

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Walters and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my fifteenth Annual Report for the year ending December, 1966.

The Registrar General's mid-year estimated population figure, again showed a small fall of 50 compared to the previous year.

Public Health in the area was generally good and apart from a few cases of measles there were no infectious diseases, other than four new cases of Tuberculosis. As usual heart diseases and cancer were the chief causes of death.

The second part of this Report has, this year, been prepared by Mr. Davies, Public Health Inspector. I wish to take this opportunity of thanking him for his ready assistance and co-operation in the work of the Department, and also the other Members of the Staff and the Council for their continued interest and support in the work of the Health Department.

Your obedient Servant,

G. M. HERBERT.

# GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of District	...	...	...	...	944 Acres
Population (mid-year 1966)	...	...	...	...	6,150
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	...	2,044

Number of dwellings completed in the Urban during 1966 :—

(a) By the Council	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b) By Private Building	...	...	...	...	9
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£193,651
Net Product of Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	£721

# VITAL STATISTICS.

Births — 82 births were registered during the year, compared with 75 last year.

			M	F	Total
Live births — Legitimate	...	...	37	43	80
Illegitimate	...	...	3	1	4
			—	—	—
			40	44	84
Still Births — Legitimate	...	...	1	1	2
Illegitimate	...	...	0	0	0
Total Live and Still Births :—					
Legitimate	...	...	38	44	82
Illegitima	...	...	3	1	4
			—	—	—
			41	45	86

Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total Live Births :—

Ammanford	...	...	...	...	4.76
Carmarthenshire	...	...	...	...	4.62
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	—

Birth rate per 1,000 Population :—

Ammanford	...	...	...	...	13.66
Carmarthenshire	...	...	...	...	13.85
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	17.7

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still Births) :—

Ammanford	...	...	...	...	23.26
Carmarthenshire	...	...	...	...	18.4
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	15.4

## INFANT DEATHS.

This year there was only one infant death, a female who died at 6 hours.

## INFANT MORTALITY RATES.

Perinatal (Still Births and Infant Deaths under 1 week) :—

Ammanford	...	...	...	...	34.88
Carmarthenshire	...	...	...	...	27.81
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	26.3

Early Neonatal — Deaths during 1st week :—

Ammanford	...	...	...	...	11.90
Carmarthenshire	...	...	...	...	9.59
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	11.1

Neonatal Deaths under 4 weeks :—

Ammanford	...	...	...	...	11.90
Carmarthenshire	...	...	...	...	11.77
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	12.9

Under 1 year : —

Ammanford	...	...	...	...	11.90
Carmarthenshire	...	...	...	...	15.69
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	18.9

## MATERNAL MORTALITY

This year there were no deaths from Pregnancy or Child-birth.

Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births :—

Ammanford	Carmarthenshire	England and Wales
0.0	0.0	0.2

## DEATHS — ALL CAUSES.

There were fewer deaths during the year, 92 compared with 110 in 1965.

Males — 52.

Females — 40.

# CAUSES OF DEATH in 1966.

	M	F	Total
Tuberculosis Respiratory ... ..	1 ...	0 ...	1
Diphtheria ... ..	0 ...	0 ...	0
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	0 ...	0 ...	0
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	0 ...	0 ...	0
Cancer ... ..	12 ...	5 ...	17
Vascular lesions of Nervous System	2 ...	5 ...	7
Coronary Disease, Angina ... ..	19 ...	6 ...	25
Hypertension with Heart Disease ...	4 ...	3 ...	7
Other Heart Diseases ... ..	1 ...	7 ...	8
Other Circulatory Diseases ... ..	1 ...	3 ...	4
Influenza ... ..	0 ...	0 ...	0
Pneumonia ... ..	0 ...	1 ...	1
Bronchitis ... ..	1 ...	1 ...	2
Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..	3 ...	1 ...	4
Peptic Ulcer ... ..	1 ...	0 ...	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis ... ..	0 ...	0 ...	0
Congenital Malformations ... ..	0 ...	2 ...	2
Suicide ... ..	0 ...	0 ...	0
Other Ill-defined Diseases ... ..	6 ...	3 ...	9
Motor Accidents ... ..	0 ...	0 ...	0
All Other Accidents ... ..	1 ...	3 ...	4
	—	—	—
	52	40	92

In the total deaths —

66% males; and

65% females were 65 years or over;

27% of males; and

40% of females were 75 years or over.

Pneumoconiosis was again a contributory cause in seven of the male deaths whose ages ranged from 63 to 87 years.

Death rate per 1,000 Population :—

Ammanford	Carmarthenshire	England and Wales
14.95	14.37	11.7

CANCER

There were fewer deaths from cancer amongst the female deaths, but the figure for males was the same as in 1965. Four of these died from cancer of the lung or bronchus. Their ages ranged from 55 to 70 years.

Site	55 - 65		65 - 75		75 over	
	M	F	M	F	M	F
Lung ... ..	1		3			
Stomach ... ..			1			
Colon and Rectum ... ..			2		2	1
Breast ... ..				1		
Genito-urinary ... ..			1			
Other Sites ... ..	1	2			1	1
Total ...	2	2	7	1	3	2

Rate per 1,000 Population :—

Ammanford	Carmarthenshire	England and Wales
2.16	2.28	2.25

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS  
DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)

The only notifications received during 1966 were for 72 cases of Measles and one for scarlet fever. No cases of food poisoning were notified.



## CLASSIFICATION OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

	Ammanford		Carmarthenshire	
	1965	1966	1965	1966
Measles ... ..	24	72	623	1,007
Scarlet Fever ... ..	0	1	11	19
Whooping Cough ... ..	0	0	43	5
Poliomyelitis ... ..	0	0	0	0
Dysentery ... ..	0	0	108	36
Food Poisoning ... ..	0	0	6	19

## IMMUNISATION

For the twentieth year in succession no Diphtheria occurred in the Area. However, a few cases continue to occur in the country, so parents should ensure that their babies and young children are protected by inoculation. This can be obtained from the Family Doctor or at the Infant Welfare Clinic, held weekly on Tuesday afternoons.

During the past year, most of those immunised received the triple injection protecting them against Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough.

Numbers immunised :—

Under 5 years :

Triple inoculations ... ..	108
Immunised against Diphtheria and Tetanus ...	1

Aged 5 - 14

Booster Triples ... ..	54
Booster Diphtheria/Tetanus ... ..	0

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163

## VACCINATIONS

**Smallpox** — Vaccinations against Smallpox were performed by the Family Doctors and the Infant Welfare Clinic. The majority were done at about eighteen months. Separate figures for the area are not available but the total for the whole County are :—

Age at date of Vaccination	Number Vaccinated	Number Revaccinated
Under 1	101	—
1	621	—
2 - 4	212	16
5 - 14	30	101
15 or over	15	77

**B.C.G. Vaccinations** — Separate figures for this area are not available. The figures for the whole County are :—

	Contact Scheme	School Children
Skin Tested ... ..	200	2070
Found Negative ... ..	142	1745
Vaccinated ... ..	125	1663

**Poliomyelitis — Vaccination Whole County**  
Vaccination with Oral Vaccine (Sabin)

Age Group	Number of persons who received
	3 doses of Oral Vaccine
Children born in 1966 ... ..	215
Children born 1965 ... ..	1,026
Children born 1964 ... ..	279
Children born 1963 ... ..	81
Children born 1962 ... ..	282
Others over 16 ... ..	54
<b>Total</b> ... ..	<b>1,947</b>

Number of persons given a reinforcing dose of  
Oral Vaccine — 120.

**TUBERCULOSIS**

Four new cases were notified during the year, two males suffering from respiratory tuberculosis and one female from miliary and one other from non-respiratory disease.

There was one death from respiratory tuberculosis.  
Tuberculosis Rates :—

		Case Rates		Death Rates	
Ammanford ...	Resp.	0.48	...	Resp.	0.16
	Non. Resp.	0.16	...	Non. Resp.	0.0
Carmarthenshire ...	Resp.	0.36	...	Resp.	0.5
	Non. Resp.	0.08	...	Non. Resp.	0.1

## MASS RADIOGRAPHY

This year there were twenty two visits compared with 24 in 1965.

The total attendance was slightly less at 1,314 and 1,511 in 1965, giving an average attendance of 60 per visit this year. Also this average is less than at other centres in the County. The unit will continue to attend fortnightly during 1967. In 1966, twenty six persons, or just under 2% of those examined were referred to the Chest Clinic for further investigation and in another 15% other pulmonary abnormalities were diagnosed.

## OVERSEAS STUDENTS

A small group of the Overseas Students attending a Social Science Course at Swansea University, spent three weeks at Ammanford prior to commencing their studies. They were given a talk on Public Health Services.

## GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES

**Orthopaedic** — Weekly on Mondays (morning and afternoons) at High Street Clinic.

**Infant Welfare** — Weekly on Tuesday afternoons at High Street Clinic.

**Asthma Clinic** — Wednesday mornings.

**Chiropody Clinic** at High Street Clinic for pensioners only Wednesday, 4 p.m.

**Ante-Natal and Post Natal Clinics** — Weekly on Thursday mornings and Alternate Thursday afternoons at High Street Clinic.

**Family Planning Clinic** on 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 5 p.m. at High Street Clinic.

**Cytology Clinic** on Friday morning, High Street Clinic.

## DISTRIBUTION OF WELFARE FOOD

The national Welfare Foods are now distributed at the Infant Welfare Clinic every Tuesday afternoon, from 2 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.

## MIDWIVES

There are two qualified midwives practising in the area.

## AMBULANCE SERVICE

A County Ambulance and Car are stationed at the Ambulance Station in High Street.

# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE Public Health Inspector FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1966

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Walters and Gentlemen,

I submit for your consideration my report of the Public Health circumstances in the Ammanford Urban District in the year ending 31st December, 1966.

## WATER SUPPLY

The supply and distribution of water in the Urban District is controlled by the Loughor Joint Water Board. All houses are connected to the distribution mains.

The water has a pH of 7.54 and a fluorine content of .072 part per million. 1/14 of the recommended amount in the water supply required to improve the dental health which is one part per million.

The present supply is sufficient for the foreseeable future.

All the bacteriological samples submitted for analysis were found to be satisfactory. It has been decided by the Secretary of State for Wales to initiate statutory procedure to bring about under compulsory powers the establishment of a Joint Water Board covering Carmarthenshire and West Glamorgan. Ammanford Urban District Council will be included in the larger Board.

## DRAINAGE SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Trunk Sewers and Sewerage Disposal Works are controlled by the Amman Valley Joint Sewerage Board. Secondary sewers providing connections to the Urban District area are controlled by the Urban District Council.

Storm water separation chambers of the weir type are constructed in the trunk sewer system to reduce the surcharging of the sewers during wet weather. The construction of new drains and connections to secondary sewers are controlled by the Public Health Department. Twenty new drains were inspected during the year.

Number of Houses with drainage connected to the Public Sewer	...	...	...	...	2,186
Number of Houses draining to a Septic Tank which can be connected to the Public Sewer	...	...	...	...	1
Number of Houses draining to a Septic Tank which are on land which is below the level of the Public Sewer	...	...	...	...	3

## WATER COURSES

Four of the Seven watercourses draining surface water from the surrounding hills pass through badly constructed culverts and under bridges which restrict the flow of the streams during heavy rainfall causing flooding in the Urban area.

The main restriction to the flow of these watercourses is their passage under roads controlled by the County Council.

Schemes have been submitted to the County Council to reduce the restriction to the flow of these watercourses and the diversion of watercourses outside the Urban District Area. No action has been taken by the County Council to explore the possibility of reducing the cause of the flooding.

## REFUSE COLLECTION

**House Refuse** — The House Refuse is collected from all premises twice weekly by means of a side loader refuse lorry.

The collection is a kerbside collection.

The bins are not provided by the Council and no steps have been taken to enforce Section 75 of the Public Health Act 1936 to enforce the provision of a satisfactory refuse bin.

**Trade Refuse** — is collected from the trade premises one day per week on Monday up until March, 1966 and on Wednesday thereafter in the form of cardboard and waste paper which is burned on the Rhydymaerdy Refuse Tip.

**Disposal of Refuse** — The house refuse is tipped on two sites one at Gelligwaerdy and the other at Rhydymaerdy, both sites are owned by farmers and tipping being carried out with the permission of the farmers and subject to the discontinuation without notice. The tipping is semi-controlled tipping the refuse is levelled by machine regularly to a depth of approx. 4 feet and covered by spoil when it comes available from time to time, and by the contents of road gulleys deposited by the Urban District and County Council vehicles. The two tips are sprayed with insecticide and treated for rodent infestation monthly. Care has been taken to see that the Refuse Tips are inaccessible to animals by enclosing with suitable fencing as required by the Disease of Animals Act 1950.



## PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

### INSPECTIONS UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

No. of Complaints investigated	...	...	204
Number revisited	...	...	181
Informal notices served	...	...	26
Statutory Notices served.	Section 93	...	14
	Section 45	...	1
No. of properties repaired as the result of official action	...	...	18

### HOUSING ACTS

Number of Inspections	...	...	195
The Council Housing Estates total	...	472	Housing Units
Number of Council Houses let	...	9	
Number of Council One-Bedroom Flats let	...	...	4
Number of Council Old Age Bungalows let	...	...	1
Number on Current Housing Waiting List at the end of 1966	...	...	60
New applications for Council Houses received in 1966	...	...	21

### HOUSING ACT 1964 — PART II

No action was taken under Part II of the Housing Act 1964 which deals with compulsory improvements of private houses, as applications for Standard Improvement Grants are not received by the Ammanford Health Department.

### CLEAN AIR ACT 1956

No complaints were received under the Clean Air Act 1956. The amount of air pollution due to smoke is negligible. The majority of householders use anthracite coal mined in the district, which is for all practical purposes a smokeless fuel.

### CARAVAN SITES

No Caravan Sites are licenced in the Urban District. Planning permission has been granted to place a caravan on a parking area of a social club. No application for a Caravan Site Licence was received. My recommendation that a site licence was necessary was not accepted by the Council.

## SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

The paddling pool in the Public Park was not used during the year.

There are no swimming baths in the Ammanford Urban District.

## SCHOOLS

There are Five Local Education Schools in the district.

One private commercial school was discontinued during the year.

## PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT

With the completion of the Eriskay Tenpin Bowling Alley and Entertainment Centre there were four places of Public Entertainments in Ammanford at the end of 1966.

## PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The Council has provided five Ladies and six Gentlemen Public Conveniences. These are cleaned twice daily.

On consideration of a report on the condition of the underground Gentlemen Public Conveniences at College Street the Council have resolved to consider the purchase of a new site for the erection of a new Public Convenience and the erection of a new Ladies Public Convenience adjoining it on the same site.

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1965

### FOOD UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

The following tinned food was examined, and found unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered:—

Tinned Meat ... ..	140 lbs. 14 ozs.
Tinned Fruit ... ..	419 lbs. 12½ ozs.
Tinned Vegetables ... ..	74 lbs. 10 ozs.
Tinned Fish ... ..	13 lbs. 2¼ ozs.
Tinned Rice ... ..	12 lbs. 7½ ozs.
Tinned Soup ... ..	4 lbs. 4½ ozs.
Tinned Milk ... ..	69¾ pints equivalent.

61lbs. Butter and 338 Packets of frozen foods due to breakdown to freezing unit of cold storage counter.

The following meat was found unfit in catering premises due to decomposition and voluntarily surrendered :

Side of Bacon ... ..	11 lbs. 3 ozs.
Pork ... ..	51 lbs. 4 ozs.
37 Frozen Chickens, total of 137 lbs. 10 ozs.	

The above food was collected under supervision by the Council Refuse Lorry and buried in the Refuse Tip.

## SLAUGHTERHOUSES

One Private Slaughterhouse was licensed for the slaughter of Cattle, Sheep and Pigs for Human Consumption.

## SLAUGHTERMEN

Two Slaughtermen were licenced to slaughter animals for human consumption.

## MEAT INSPECTION REGULATIONS 1963

77 visits were made to the Private Slaughterhouse at the rear of 46, ~~High~~ <sup>WIND</sup> Street to inspect the following carcasses and offal:—

Cattle	...	...	48
Pigs	...	...	209
Lambs	...	...	162

A 100% inspection of all meat carcasses and edible offal was carried out.

No charge is made for Meat Inspection.

All carcasses passed fit for human consumption are stamped with an approved stamp.

The following Meat and Offal was found to be unfit for human consumption:—

Tuberculosis	...	...	8 lbs of Beasts Mesenteric Fat.
Cirrhosis	...	...	91 lbs. Beast Liver; 31 lbs. Pigs Liver.
Multiple Abscesses	...	...	
			14 lbs. Beasts Liver.
Distoma Hepaticum ..			13 lbs. Sheep Liver.

## FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS

The following food premises are inspected regularly:—

	Number Inspections			
Butcher's Shops	...	...	7	28
Grocers and Provisions Shops	...	...	32	64
Bakehouses	...	...	4	12
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	7	21
Public Houses	...	...	12	30
Fishmongers	...	...	18	54
Catering Premises	...	...	16	54



ICE CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT ETC.)  
REGULATIONS 1957 AND 1963

Ice Cream is manufactured on two premises a cold mix is used in the two premises. Six samples of ice cream, three from each premises were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Glangwili, Carmarthen. Each sample was Grade 1, which is the highest grade of cleanliness.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS 1963  
MILK (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1969

Regular samples of milk have been purchased from Distributors selling milk in the Ammanford Urban District.

Four Distributors sell Untreated Milk.

Ten Distributors sell Pasteurised Milk.

Three Shops and Two Distributors sell Sterilized Milk.

64 Samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Glangwili, Carmarthen.

34 Samples of Untreated Milk for the Brucella Abortus Ring Test and Methylene Blue Reduction Test.

29 Samples of Pasteurised Milk for the Methylene Blue Reduction Test and Phosphataze Test.

1 Sample of Sterilized Milk for the Turbidity Test.

A positive reaction was obtained from the Brucella Abortus Ring Test carried out on Five Samples of Untreated Milk. Brucella Abortus was isolated from one of these samples of Milk taken in September. As the farm producing the milk was in the Llandeilo Rural District, the Llandeilo R.D.C. Public Health Inspector sampled the milk of each cow in the herd on the Farm. Two cows were found to have their milk infected with Brucella Abortus and were removed from the herd.

Five samples of untreated milk from 3 Producer/Retailers failed to pass the Methylene Blue Reduction test. The producers were informed of the result of the tests.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949

One Rodent Operator is employed.

263 Premises were treated for Rodent Infestation.  
528 Revisists were made subsequent to initial treatment.

### FACTORIES ACT 1961

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecuted Occupiers
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities ...	8	8	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the local Authority ... ..	32	40	Nil	Nil

G. M. HERBERT,  
Medical Officer of Health.

W. DAVIES,  
Public Health Inspector.



